

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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R 241218Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7904

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 1645

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, NG

SUBJ: KOUNTCHE'S VIEWS ON DEVELOPMENT OF OIL RESOURCES

REF: NIAMEY 1635

1. DURING MEETING WITH UN ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL DJERMAKOYE ON MAY 21, HE MENTIONED THAT PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE HAD EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT FORMER GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES REGARDING CONCESSIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF OIL RESOURCES. ACCORDING TO DJERMAKOYE, KOUNTCHE WAS TOYING WITH IDEA OF REVIEWING CONCESSIONS ALREADY GRANTED ON GROUNDS THAT AREAS INVOLVED WERE FAR TOO EXTENSIVE, CONCESSIONS HAD BEEN AWARDED WITHOUT PROPER BIDDING PROCEDURES AND SOME OF COMPANIES WHICH HAD RECEIVED CONCESSION WERE IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BUSINESS SOLELY FOR SPECULATIVE PURPOSES. DJERMAKOYE

CITED AS EXAMPLE LARGE CONCESSIONH NORTH OF NIAMEY GIVEN
TO BISHOP OIL WHICH WAS NOT BEING DEVELOPED BECAUSE
BISHOP WAS MORE CONCERNED WITH SPECULATION THAN
DEVELOPMENT.

2. I TOLD DJERMAKOYE I HAD RECENTLY BEEN IN TOUCH WITH
SOME OF OIL COMPANIES HOLDING CONCESSIONS (EXXON AND
ROSARIO RESOURCES) AND HAD IMPRESSION THEY WERE SERIOUS ABOUT
THEIR BUSINESS, WERE CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN SHIPPING
OIL RIGS INTO COUNTRY AND WERE CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC
ABOUT FINDING OIL. DJERMAKOYE SAID THAT HE HAD IMPRESSION
FROM TALK WITH KOUNTCHE THAT ANY COMPANY SERIOUSLY
COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING CONCESSIONS HAD NOTHING TO
WORRY ABOUT BUT INDEPENDENTS LIKE BISHOP RISKED LOSING
THEIR CONCESSION THEY WERE SERIOUS ABOUT
THEIR BUSINESS, WERE CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN SHIPPING
OIL RIGS INTO COUNTRY AND WERE CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC
ABOUT FINDING OIL. DJERMAKOYE SAID THAT HE HAD IMPRESSION
FROM TALK WITH KOUNTCHE THAT ANY COMPANY SERIOUSLY
COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING CONCESSIONS HAD NOTHING TO
WORRY ABOUT BUT INDEPENDENTS LIKE BISHOP RISKED LOSING
THEIR CONCESSIONSIF THEY DID NOT ACTIVELY EXPLOIT THEM.
HECK

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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